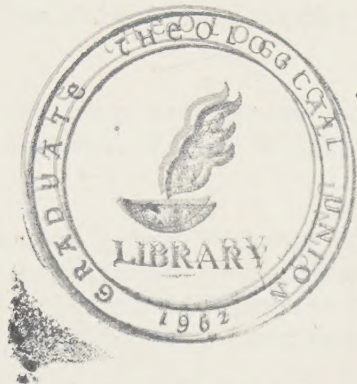


# Kyodan

*Kyodan News Letter*

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GREETINGS FROM THE MODERATOR

"What we have seen and heard we declare to you, so that you and we together may share in a common life, that life which we share with the Father and his Son Jesus Christ. And we write this in order that the joy of us all may be complete." (I John 1:3-4)

It is twenty-five years since the Kyodan was inaugurated in 1941. We are deeply grateful that the Kyodan has been developed through the generous co-operation and help from churches overseas in various phases of the life and mission of the church.

It is our great joy to announce to you that our "Kyodan News Letter" will be released starting from this month to the end that we may engage in positive dialogue with churches overseas and that "together we may share in a common life." You will receive the most recent and accurate information concerning the life and mission of the Church in Japan through our News Letter.

We invite your kind response to the news letter, as we hope and pray that it may become a reliable source of information and may render good service for Christ's mission in the world.

*Isamu Omura*

Isamu OMURA  
MODERATOR

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## RURAL LEADERS RETURN TO VILLAGES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

The 6th South-East Asia Rural Leaders Training Center held its graduation ceremony on December 6 of last year at Tsurukawa Gakuin of the United Church of Christ in Japan. Graduates of the course included eight ministers and five lay leaders.

Tsurukawa Gakuin conducts an 8-month training course every year from early April to December, inviting as students about ten pastors serving in rural evangelism and lay leaders from Christian churches in South-East and East Asia countries.

Graduates of last year came from seven different countries; 1 from India, 4 from Thailand, 1 from Sarawak, 2 from Philippines, 1 from West Samoa, 2 from Taiwan and 1 from Korea.

Graduates of this course total 50 since it was opened in 1960, and they have been rendering good service in their communities in nine Asian countries. They came primarily from Protestant denominational churches such as the United Churches and Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational and Episcopal churches.

## THE VATICAN AND THE KYODAN

The Second Vatican Council, which was in session since 1962, was closed on December 8, 1965. To this Council the Kyodan was invited to send as an observer, Rev. Dr. Tetsutaro Ariga, representing the Protestant Churches in Asia.

On January 6 the Kyodan Headquarters invited Father Paul Pfister, who attended the Council the whole period, Father Joseph Spae, Director of the Oriens Institute of Religions, Father Seiichi Shiroyanagi of the Tokyo Cathedral and Father Takeshi Sakuma of Ogikubo Church and heard from them a minute and rather detailed report of the Council. The meeting lasted the whole day and fruitful discussions were held between the Catholic Fathers and the Kyodan executives as to future policies of negotiations, and agreement was made that both Churches make an effort in having dialogue with each other and that they cooperate in the execution of social actions.

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## MODERATOR SPEAKS ABOUT EACC PROGRAM

Moderator Isamu Omura, Vice Chariman of the East Asia Christian Conference (EACC) meeting held in Ceylon last December, told the Kyodan Times Editor about the meeting in general and about the 1966 EACC program--in particular about the Conference's relationships with the churches in Japan and reactions of Asian churches towards the Vietnamese War.

"The meeting was held from December 11 to 14 in a quiet town in Ceylon called Kandy. The main subjects dealt with were the reports of actions carried out last year and the plans for the new year. The plans include holding either in Hong Kong or Taipei in February, 1966, a 'Conference of Christian Social Scientists of Japan and Korea,' in which economic problems lying between Japan and Korea and the solution thereof are to be discussed by the Christian scholars of both countries. Professor Mikio Sumiya of Tokyo University and Professor Kikuo Yamaoka of Chiba University will be among the delegates from Japan, and U Kyaw Than, EACC Associate General Secretary, is also expected to attend. Actual preparations for this conference are now being made by Professor Yoshiaki Iizaka of Gakushuin University.

"Some other conferences held this year in which Japan will have a direct role are the 'Conference on Industry and Laity' held in May in Kyoto, and 'Asian



The first volume of the Journal of the American Medical Association, published in 1950, was a landmark in the history of the medical profession. It was the first time that the medical profession had a journal of its own, and it was the first time that the medical profession had a journal that was published by the medical profession.

The second volume of the Journal of the American Medical Association, published in 1951, was a landmark in the history of the medical profession. It was the first time that the medical profession had a journal of its own, and it was the first time that the medical profession had a journal that was published by the medical profession.

The third volume of the Journal of the American Medical Association, published in 1952, was a landmark in the history of the medical profession. It was the first time that the medical profession had a journal of its own, and it was the first time that the medical profession had a journal that was published by the medical profession.

The fourth volume of the Journal of the American Medical Association, published in 1953, was a landmark in the history of the medical profession. It was the first time that the medical profession had a journal of its own, and it was the first time that the medical profession had a journal that was published by the medical profession.

# THE JOURNAL OF THE

The fifth volume of the Journal of the American Medical Association, published in 1954, was a landmark in the history of the medical profession. It was the first time that the medical profession had a journal of its own, and it was the first time that the medical profession had a journal that was published by the medical profession.

The sixth volume of the Journal of the American Medical Association, published in 1955, was a landmark in the history of the medical profession. It was the first time that the medical profession had a journal of its own, and it was the first time that the medical profession had a journal that was published by the medical profession.

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## THE JOURNAL OF THE

The seventh volume of the Journal of the American Medical Association, published in 1956, was a landmark in the history of the medical profession. It was the first time that the medical profession had a journal of its own, and it was the first time that the medical profession had a journal that was published by the medical profession.

The eighth volume of the Journal of the American Medical Association, published in 1957, was a landmark in the history of the medical profession. It was the first time that the medical profession had a journal of its own, and it was the first time that the medical profession had a journal that was published by the medical profession.

The ninth volume of the Journal of the American Medical Association, published in 1958, was a landmark in the history of the medical profession. It was the first time that the medical profession had a journal of its own, and it was the first time that the medical profession had a journal that was published by the medical profession.

Christian Women's Convention' held in International Christian University in Tokyo in May.

"A report was also given of the Conference on the Vietnamese War held by representatives of the EACC and the NCCC-USA, in which the reactions of the Asian churches showed much in common. While discussions on Indo-Pakistan problems were held and the ideological differences of the two countries pointed to as the fundamental cause of the dispute, it was agreed that the Asian Christians should join hands for peace in Christ, overcoming the problem of ideology.

"As the Kyodan is celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary in October this year, it is important that the churches in Japan put their best foot forward in carrying out their obligations to the churches of Asia. Such shall be the posture of the Kyodan this year."

#### TOKYO UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY MOVES IN JANUARY

Tokyo Union Theological Seminary's new school building including dormitories and staff residence is nearing completion on the neighboring campus of ICU and the seminary will move to its new quarters on January 20.

Classes will be started in the new class rooms from January 24. The dedication ceremony of the new seminary building will take place on February 18 from 2:00 PM.

Presently over one-third of all Kyodan pastors are graduates of this seminary.

#### JAPAN'S CHANGING FACE

There will always be those villages and towns in Japan that make one feel 'this is Japan.' However, by and large, the urbanization of Japan is under way. From north to south people are running to ready-made cities called, 'Danchi.' These cities are of various sizes built near large metropolitan areas, such as Tokyo and Osaka. An example of the largest ready-made city in the world follows.

Tokyu New Town will be located one-half hour from Tokyo by high speed rail service. It will house more than 300,000 persons; and besides 80,000 housing units will contain 3 universities, 5 high schools, 3 large hospitals, plus amusement centers, playgrounds and shopping centers. Large parks, providing 11 times the per capita area of the present Tokyo parks, will be prepared.

This is the new emerging urban Japan and the church is immediately faced with the problem of entering into these new towns with the people.

#### IN BRIEF

Rev. Thomas Stransky, Secretary for the Committee on Ecumenical Relations of the Roman Catholic Church, was a recent visitor to Japan. Meetings were held with Kyodan leaders for an exchange of thought on cooperation between Roman Catholics and the Kyodan in Japan

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John Bathgate, Secretary of the New York Stony Point Missionary Orientation Center, was a recent visitor to the Kyodan for discussions of the need and methods of pre-service orientation for missionaries.

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Dr. Martin Niemöller, one of the presidents of the World Council of Churches and well-known leader of the Church in Germany and the world-wide peace movement, will visit Japan for about a month, arriving April 20, 1966.



